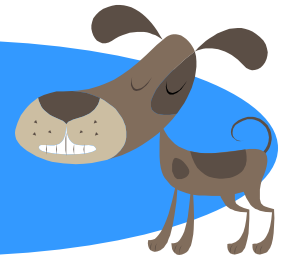


# Gimme Shelter

## News from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter

Loudoun County  
Department of  
Animal Care &  
Control



December 2009

Volume 5, Issue 12

## 2009: The Year in Review

2009 was a busy year for Animal Care & Control! In case you missed it, here's a recap of the year that was.

In **January**, almost exactly one year after 48 horses were seized by Animal Control Officers for cruelty and neglect, a Loudoun County Jury found Dennis Danley guilty of 42 Misdemeanor counts of Animal Cruelty after two days of evidence and deliberations.

In **February**, seven rabbits found new homes thanks to the "Somebunny to Love" promotion! Also, changes to the **dog license process** allowed dog owners to purchase 1, 2, or 3 year licenses in conjunction with their pets' rabies vaccine dates.

In **March**, the Department was honored with two awards at the annual Council of Governments Animal Services Awards: the 2008 **Animal Care Award** for its work caring for 48 horses in addition to hundreds of other animals for much of the year, and Shelter Manager Inga Fricke was honored with the 2008 **Adoption Award** for her efforts in finding placements for the horses in just over 10 months.

**April** brought a free pet microchip clinic at Northern Virginia Community College. **131** animals were microchipped by the Department.

**May** saw the unveiling of the Department's new **mobile adoption vehicle**, which made **20 stops** throughout the County over the remainder of the year.

**June** was a busy month online as the Department added **video** to its website! Short clips of adoptable animals are now available through YouTube on [www.loudoun.gov/animals](http://www.loudoun.gov/animals) and on Petfinder.com. These videos help show off the wonderful personalities of our pets in ways that words never could! The Department also started "tweeting" in June at [twitter.com/loudounanimals](http://twitter.com/loudounanimals).

Adoptions heated up in **July** with **82 animals** finding new homes, thanks in part to our "Cat Independence Month" promotion, which helped **51 cats** find families.

In July, the Department was also awarded a grant from the Petfinder.com foundation to allow all shelter dogs to be vaccinated against bordetella (kennel cough).

**August** brought us **Shelter Summer Camp**, in conjunction with Parks & Rec. Twelve campers, ages 14-16, spent a week learning all about animal careers.

In **October**, the Department hosted its annual **Homeward Bound** pet adoption marathon. Despite rainy weather, the **12 Hour Tailgate Party** was a great success, with **20 animals** finding new homes.

Finally **December** brought us the busiest **Pet Pantry** in history! **472 families** in need received food, toys, and treats for **905 animals**. This nearly doubles last year's total!

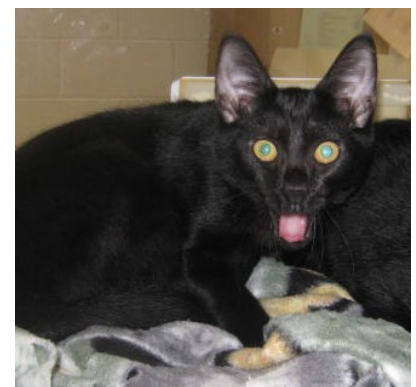
Also in December the **Home For the Holidays** promotion provided free spay/neuter to all dogs and cats adopted from the Shelter. To date, **84 animals** have found new loving homes this month.

What a busy year! The Department would like to thank its staff, volunteers, and friends in the community for supporting our programs. We look forward to 2010!

### By the Numbers...

#### In 2009...

- **782** animals were adopted from the Shelter.
- **400** people took tours of the Shelter
- **128** animals were featured on the Department's cable TV show, "Making Friends."
- **118** people volunteered time for the Department.
- The Department participated in **42** community events, including adoption and education programs.



# The Year in Photos



Above, Brutus & Chummy, weighing over 16 lbs each, found new homes in 2009.



Above, the mobile adoption vehicle all dressed up for the Leesburg Halloween Parade!

Right, kittens declare their Independence in July



Above & right, arts & crafts during Summer Shelter Camp in August.



Left, looking for a new home at Dulles Town Center

Right, crowds at the 12 Hour Tailgate Party in October



## Stay Tuned for more in 2010...

### Upcoming Holidays

The Animal Shelter will be **closed** on Friday, January 1 for New Year's Day. Normal hours resume Saturday, January 2.

The Shelter will also be **closed** on Friday, January 15 for Lee-Jackson Day and Monday, January 18 for Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

Emergency Animal Control Services are available when the shelter is closed by calling 703-777-0445.

